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Application No.	Applicant(s)	
09/559,118	DILLON, DOUGLAS M	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Joseph E. Avellino	2143	
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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Craig Plastrick through Dan Glueck on July 27, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel Claim 93.

Amend claims 60 and 76 as follows:

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60. (Currently Amended) A driver for use in a computing device having a TCP/IP stack, said driver being configured to send a first IP packet from the TCP/IP stack through an IP tunnel across a network,

wherein the source IP address of an IP packet of the IP tunnel is different from the source IP address of the first IP packet.

wherein an apparatus on the network receives the IP packet of the IP tunnel, and

wherein from the IP packet of the tunnel an IP packet is obtained comprising (a) for the source IP address, the first IP packet's source IP address, (b) for the destination IP address, the first IP packet's destination IP address, and (c) for the data field, the first IP packet's data field.

76. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

an internet browser; and

a TCP/IP stack for use with said internet browser,

wherein said internet browser sends a packet across the internet to a second apparatus through (a) said TCP/IP stack, (b) a Network layer tunnel between said TCP/IP stack of said apparatus and a gateway apparatus, and (c) means for transmitting packets from the gateway apparatus to the second apparatus,

wherein a Network layer source address of a packet of the Network layer tunnel is different from a source IP address of an IP packet received by the Network layer tunnel from said TCP/IP stack.

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wherein the gateway apparatus receives the packet of the Network layer tunnel, and

wherein from the packet of the Network layer tunnel an IP packet is obtained comprising (a) for the source IP address, the source IP address of the IP packet received by the Network layer tunnel from said TCP/IP stack, (b) for the destination IP address of the IP packet received by the Network layer tunnel from said TCP/IP stack, and (c) for the data field, the data field of the IP packet received by the Network layer tunnel from said TCP/IP stack.

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REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not provide for, nor does not reasonably suggest providing for an encapsulation mechanism for IP packets transmitted on a network. An exemplary view of the invention claimed can be found in Figure 5. A Tunneled IP packet 540 is encased inside another IP packet 530 pertaining to other information needed in order to correctly assemble the packet on the IP tunnel exit as well as to aid routing through a separate network disparate from the first network in which the original packet information would be unusable. This, in conjunction with the other limitations of the independent claims, render this case in condition for allowance.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph E. Avellino whose telephone number is (703) 305-7855. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00-4:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A. Wiley can be reached on (703) 308-5221. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JEA July 27, 2004

> DAVID WALEY SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100